Approved For Release 2000/08/22 : CIA-RDP62-00328A000200170004-3

Requirement file

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Cancelled by phone 31 May 60 RJ

24 June 1959

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Intelligence Information Staff

THROUGH : Chief, D/S

FROM : Deputy Chief, S/TD

SUBJECT : Determination of Western European Producers of Advanced Boron compounds.

1. The attached report states that Communist China is seeking delivery of boron compounds from Western Europe. We have been informed that production of these compounds has been limited to laboratory use in Western Europe until recently. Clearance to question appropriate US chemical firms concerning West European
25X1A8a producers of the following boron compounds has been granted by [redacted] (X-3080).

a. pentaborane
b. decaborane
c. natrium-bor-hydride (sodium borohydride)
d. Kalium-bor-hydride (potassium borohydride)

Permission does not, of course, include disclosure of the source or any of the information in the attached report. This request has
25X1A9a been discussed with [redacted] CO/C, who suggested submission of a written request.

2. The firm, Metal Hydrides Inc., of Beverly, Mass., is listed as a producer of sodium and potassium borohydride in many US Directories, and may be knowledgeable in this field. Other large chemical producers and exporters like Olin-Mathieson, Dow-Chemical and Dupont may also be aware of Western European developments. It would be appreciated if CO/C could determine from whichever of its contacts appears appropriate, which Western European chemical manufacturers are producing, or are planning to produce, any of the above mentioned commodities in commercial quantities. At the same time, it might be possible to determine whether they are aware of any unusual inquiries or shipments from the US or abroad. Please obtain all available details.

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3. With OO/C permission, the resultant information, in conjunction with the attached report, will be used to alert pertinent Foreign Service posts to a possible diversion of these commodities. If information on suspicious inquiries or shipments involving US origin goods are obtained, it will be turned over to the Department of Commerce if OO/C authorization can be obtained.

25X1A9a [redacted]

Attachment:
25X1A2g [redacted]

Distribution:
O & 1 - Addressee
1 - S/TD
1 - S/TD/T
1 - Requirements file
1 - MZ
25X1A9a 1 - Boron file

RR/S/TD [redacted]fs/8428 (24 June 1959)

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